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Smallpox.

ITALY.—During the first two months of the current year the number of cases of smallpox in the city of Naples had considerably increased. During the months of October, November, and December of the last year, 24 cases altogether had been recorded. But in January the number of cases was 54, and in February 60 cases, and from March 1 to March 8, 55 new cases and 8 deaths from smallpox were reported. The number of deaths from this disease from October 1, last year, to the end of February, this year, is said to reach 20. A further spread of the disease, it is claimed, has been prevented by means of vaccination in the neighborhood under government supervision; also by isolation of the sick persons. According to a report of March 10, most of the cases have occurred among the very poorest classes dwelling in the harbor quarter of Mergellina.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH B. GREENE,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

BERLIN, GERMANY, *March 23, 1901.*

[Clipping from the Berliner Tageblatt, March 22, 1901. Sent by P. A. Surg. J. B. Greene.]

LONDON, *March 21, 1901.*

A dispatch from Southampton reports that a mild case of plague has been diagnosed by the physicians on board the steamer *Simla*, lying near Netley. The patient was conveyed to the hospital, and all persons who had come in contact with him have been isolated. The steamer *Simla* is a hospital ship, which has recently arrived from Cape Town with a number of invalids on board.

[Private Telegram.]

LONDON, *March 22, 1901.*

In Cape Town 180 plague cases have occurred up to the present time, of which 72 terminated fatally. The old troop ship *Simla* is infected with plague-bearing rats.

CAPE TOWN, *March 21, 1901.*

Four fresh plague cases have occurred.

LONDON, *March 21, 1901.*

According to an official dispatch of March 20, 1901, 10 plague cases have occurred in different parts of West Australia among white people; also 2 deaths from same.

ITALY.

Report from Naples—A case of smallpox from steamship Buenos Aires detained.

NAPLES, ITALY, *March 23, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the ten days ended March 23, 1901, the following ships were inspected:

On March 14, the steamship *Werra*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,027 steerage passengers and 160 pieces of large and 1,300 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and twenty-nine pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 15, the Italian steamship *Dinnamare*, bound in ballast for New Orleans, La.

On March 15, the steamship *Sicilia*, of the Hamburg-American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 571 steerage passengers and 70 pieces of large and 745 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and nineteen pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 17, the steamship *Duchessa di Genova*, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 676 steerage passengers and 57 pieces of large and 849 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and sixteen pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 20, the steamship *Buenos Aires*, of the Spanish trans-Atlantic Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 533 steerage passengers and 27 pieces of large and 800 pieces of small baggage. One hundred and fifteen pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 20, the steamship *Manilla*, of the Italian General Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,188 steerage passengers and 170 pieces of large and 1,400 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and eighty-five pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 21, the steamship *Trave*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 866 steerage passengers and 140 pieces of large and 1,470 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and seventy-two pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Baggage inspection.

On my arrival here there was no provision for making the baggage inspection under cover. The Italian Government had promised to provide a shelter for this purpose, but no progress had been made in the matter. Negotiations were at once commenced through the consul-general and the ambassador at Rome. After many discouragements, I am happy to report that a temporary shelter has now been provided, with a promise that we shall have permanent quarters in a new building which is about to be constructed for postal purposes.

Smallpox.

At the inspection of the steamship *Buenos Aires* a man was rejected who had been suffering with smallpox. The scaling was not yet complete, and it was thought better to detain him.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Inspection of emigrants at Palermo.

NAPLES, ITALY, *March 23, 1901.*

SIR: In accordance with Bureau orders of March 12 instant, directing me to proceed to Palermo for the purpose of inspecting emigrants bound for New York, I have the honor to report as follows:

On the night of March 17, I proceeded to Palermo. The next day I inspected the steamship *Duchessa di Genova*. The steamer was found in fairly good sanitary condition. There were 1,038 beds available for